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New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 33rd MEETING

Chairman: Mr. KHAN (Pakistan)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 88: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.27, L.40, L.44, L.56, L.61 and L.62)

(b) FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolution on food and agricultural development (A/C.2/49/L.40 and L.62)

Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.62, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.40, and expressed the hope that it would be adopted by consensus.

Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.62 was adopted.

Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.40 was withdrawn.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee should take note of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on emergency action to combat locust infestation in Africa contained in document A/49/507.

It was so decided.

(e) INTEGRATION OF THE ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION INTO THE WORLD ECONOMY (continued)

Draft resolution on the integration of the economies in transition into the world economy (A/C.2/49/L.44)

Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution, drew attention to two revisions. The words "resolutions 47/175 and 47/187 of 22 December 1992 and" should be inserted in the first preambular paragraph after the words "Reaffirming its", and the phrase "essential to sustainable development" should be added at the end of the final preambular paragraph. He hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus.

Mr. LUEDIG (Estonia) noted that Japan had joined the sponsors and that Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mongolia and Uzbekistan also wished to become sponsors. Referring to the proposed revisions, he said that the sponsors of the draft resolution were aware and fully took into account the concerns expressed in paragraph 2 of resolution 47/175 and paragraph 2 of resolution 47/187 concerning the potential diversion of development assistance from the developing countries to the economies in transition. He noted that relations between representatives of the economies in transition and those of developed and developing countries continued to improve and expressed the hope that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus.

Mr. MACEDO (Mexico) requested a number of corrections in the Spanish translation in order to make it consistent with the English text.

Mr. DZUNDEV (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) said that his delegation wished to become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.44, as orally revised, was adopted.

Mr. BELHIMEUR (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, welcomed the adoption of the resolution and thanked the representative of Estonia for reiterating that the resources necessary for the integration of the economies in transition would not be diverted from development assistance to developing countries. The Group of 77 and China welcomed the success achieved thus far in the efforts of the economies in transition to integrate into the world economy and, in particular, the imminent acceptance of a number of those countries into the European Union.

Mr. MOJOUKHOV (Belarus) supported the statement made by the Algerian representative, adding that Belarus, a sponsor of the draft resolution, had participated in every stage of the negotiations on it. Full integration of the transition economies into the international economy was a vital prerequisite for sustainable development. The understanding which was emerging in that regard was far more significant than the narrower problems concerning resources. The opportunities afforded by economic cooperation among all countries would ensure the full participation of countries in transition in the world economy.

(g) UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (HABITAT II) (continued)

Draft resolution on the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (A/C.2/49/L.27 and L.61)

The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to the programme budget implications of the draft resolution, contained in document A/C.2/49/L.56.

Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.61, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.27, and pointed out that the words "in their countries" should be inserted in paragraph 14 after the words "towns and villages". He expressed the hope that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus.

Mr. BELHIMEUR (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, the original sponsors of the draft resolution, said that the delegations of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland wished to join the sponsors.

Mr. MOJOUKHOV (Belarus), Mrs. RADUCHOWSKA-BROCHWICZ (Poland) and Mr. DOUKAS (Greece) said that their delegations also wished to become sponsors.

Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.61, as orally revised, was adopted.

Mr. BATU (Turkey) welcomed the adoption of the resolution and expressed the conviction that Habitat II would be a major forum for addressing problems relating to human settlements in all countries. Turkey would be taking all appropriate measures to ensure the success of the Conference, and he invited all Member States to participate actively in the remaining sessions of the Preparatory Committee.

Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.27 was withdrawn.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee should take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/176 of 21 December 1993 contained in document A/49/640.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 89: ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.37/Rev.1 and A/C.2/49/L.60)

(e) GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (continued)

Draft resolution on the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/C.2/49/L.37/Rev.1)

The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to the programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/49/L.60.

Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations held on the draft resolution, expressed the hope that it would be adopted by consensus.

Mr. RAMOUL (Algeria) and Mr. KING (Trinidad and Tobago), referring to paragraph 9 of document A/C.2/49/L.60 on programme budget implications, said that the post of chief of the proposed small island developing States unit should be a D-1 level post. They would also appreciate clarification of paragraph 14.

The CHAIRMAN said that clarification would be provided at the next meeting. The other point would be taken up in the Fifth Committee.

Ms. WILLIAMS-MANIGAULT (United States of America) said that, with the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States barely under way, it would be premature to consider convening a second Global Conference. Her delegation preferred to focus its efforts on implementation of the Programme of Action. The United States was analysing its own activities and those undertaken by regional and international organizations

in the light of the priorities identified in the Programme of Action, and was maintaining close ties with national non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The United States was actively promoting the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI), which it had announced at the Global Conference, held at Barbados. The Initiative was aimed at preserving marine biodiversity, in particular coral reefs and their ecosystems, and mobilizing political will at the local, national, regional and international levels to that end. The ICRC partnership included Australia, France, Jamaica, Japan, the Philippines, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The Alliance of Small Island States and the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme had also participated in its development.

The reports of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development prepared in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on a technical assistance programme and on an information network among small island developing States (SIDSI/NET) had been drawn to the attention of experts in the United States. In conclusion, as a member of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, her delegation welcomed the establishment of a regional mechanism for follow-up of the Programme of Action in the South Pacific.

Mr. BIONTINO (Germany), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that adoption of the draft resolution would constitute a major stride in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. During the consultations the European Union, which was a sponsor of the draft resolution, had consistently stressed that the activities proposed in paragraphs 12, 13 and 15 should be implemented relying on the most efficient and cost-effective use of resources. That would require, inter alia, the reorganization and restructuring of certain United Nations bodies. The programme budget implications submitted did not sufficiently take that into account and should therefore be reconsidered.

Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.37/Rev.1 was adopted.

Mr. KING (Trinidad and Tobago) said that the commitment of the Alliance of Small Island States to implementing the Programme of Action was reflected in the communiqué it had issued on 4 May 1994 at Barbados. That commitment had already translated into a number of national and regional initiatives.

The monitoring, implementation and review processes outlined in the draft resolution were vital complements to the concrete action to be taken by small island States and other members of the international community in the follow-up to the Barbados Conference. While small island developing States continued to bear the main responsibility for their development, the Programme of Action stressed cooperation with the rest of the international community, including regional and interregional cooperation among small island developing States and cooperation with other developing countries.

The Alliance wished to thank the Group of 77 and China for their continued support, the sponsors of the draft resolution and those delegations which had not sponsored it but had shown flexibility during informal consultations and, in

particular, the United States of America for its assurances of continued support to the implementation of the Programme of Action and for the concrete action it had taken.

Mr. MOJOUKHOV (Belarus) said that, for technical reasons, his delegation had been unable to join the sponsors earlier but wished to become a sponsor at that time. It supported the measures outlined in the draft resolution, in particular national efforts to promote regional and interregional cooperation with the active support of the international community.

The meeting rose at 4.10 p.m.